

REMARKS

The *Ex parte Quayle* Official Action of May 6, 2003, has been carefully reviewed. The claims in the application remain as claims 1-40, and these claims define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early formal allowance.

Acknowledgement by the PTO of the receipt of applicant's papers filed under Section 119 is noted.

As all of the claims have been found to be allowable, i.e. to define novel and unobvious subject matter under §§102 and 103, prosecution on the merits has been closed. Only minor points are raised in the Office Action which the PTO has held to be informalities.

The specification has been amended extensively above as helpfully suggested in the bottom paragraph on page 2 of the Official Action. On the other hand, applicant absolutely traverses any possible implication that any minor and/or informal errors existed at all, or that any amendments were necessary at all, or that the disclosure contained any informalities, or that any clarification was or is required, or that the specification as filed is in any way unclear regarding the permeable pieces being indeed "magnetic flux

permeable pieces". In this latter regard, attention is for example invited to the paragraph spanning pages 8 and 9 of applicant's specification.

Insofar as withdrawal of the election requirement is concerned, applicant notes that the non-elected claims have been allowed because the generic claim is allowable. Therefore, it appears that the commentary on page 3 of the Official Action, paragraphs 1-4, is now irrelevant, and therefore applicant need not comment, even though applicant may not agree with such commentary¹.

As regards the claim objections appearing on page 4 of the Official Action, the examiner's helpful suggestions, which applicant appreciates, have been adopted.

For the record, the amendments are of a formal nature only, i.e. made to place the claims in better form consistent with U.S. practice or the examiner's idea thereof. The amendments are not "narrowing" amendments because the scope of the claims has not been reduced. No limitations have been added and none are intended; the meaning of the claims remains the same.

¹ Applicant's silence in this regard is not to be taken as acquiescence of the PTO position as there expressed.

In re of Appln. No. 09/925,703

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection.

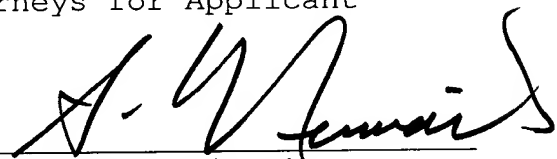
The prior art documents made of record and not relied upon have been noted, along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their application against any of applicant's claims.

Favorable consideration and early formal allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By


Sheridan Neimark
Registration No. 20,520

SN:jaa
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
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